

Criteria for FMCSA

Certification of Safety Auditors, Safety Investigators and Driver/Vehicle Inspectors

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What is FMCSA Certification -

The attainment of certification is a means for individuals to indicate to the general public, coworkers, employers, and others that Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has determined that they are qualified to perform specific technical tasks. Certification also bestows a sense of achievement upon the recipient, since it reflects professional advancement in a chosen field.

What are the types of FMCSA Certification?

- ✓ Compliance Review
- ✓ Safety Audit
- ✓ Driver and Vehicle inspections

What are the requirements for each type of certification?

1. Certified to conduct Compliance Reviews

Basic Certification:

- Successfully complete the FMCSA North American Standard – Level I, General Hazardous Materials and Compliance Review courses; or successfully complete the FMCSA Safety Investigator Academy.

Maintenance of Certification

- During the first 60 days after completion of classroom training, must conduct a minimum of 4 Compliance Reviews (CR) with a senior, experienced State or Federal CR investigator.
- Required to complete 6 compliance reviews annually
- Meet minimum documented quality levels in the compliance review process.
 - o Example: Use of management reports to establish percentage of norm
- Successfully complete any FMCSA required training.
 - o Example: Cargo Tank / Bulk Packaging, Refresher training in Drug and Alcohol regulations, Hours of Service, etc.

Decertification

- Occurs when any one of the requirements established under Maintenance of Certification are not met

Recertification

- Must meet FMCSA requirements based upon areas of deficiency in Maintenance of Certification.
(Example: Additional Hazardous Materials training)

2. Certified to conduct Safety Audits

Basic Certification:

- Successfully complete the FMCSA Safety Audit course.
(Three-week course including general hazardous materials training.)

Maintenance of Certification

- Required to complete 24 safety audits annually.
- Meet minimum documented quality levels in the safety audit process.
 - o Example: Management reports – establish percentage of norm
- Successfully complete any FMCSA required training.
 - o Example: Refresher training in Drug and Alcohol regulations, Hours of Service, etc.

Decertification

- Occurs when any one of the requirements established under Maintenance of Certification are not met

Recertification

- Successfully complete the FMCSA Safety Audit course.
OR
- Participants may challenge the FMCSA Safety Audit course. If they fail, then they must successfully complete the course.
AND
- He or she must complete additional requirement established by FMCSA

3. Certified to conduct Driver/Vehicle Inspections

I. Basic Certification:

- Successfully complete the FMCSA Driver / Vehicle Inspection -Level I North American Standard course or equivalent.
- During the first year after completion of classroom training, must conduct a minimum of 30 Level I or V inspections with a senior, experienced State or Federal inspector

Maintenance of Certification

- Required to complete 32 Level I and/or V inspections annually.
- Meet minimum documented quality levels in the driver / vehicle inspections process.
 - o Example: Management reports – establish percentage of norm
- Successfully complete any FMCSA required training.
 - o Example: Cargo Tank / Bulk Packaging, Refresher training in Hours of Service, etc.

Decertification

- Occurs when any one of the requirements established under Maintenance of Certification are not met

Recertification

- Must meet FMCSA requirements based upon areas of deficiency in Maintenance of Certification.
(Example: Additional on-the-job training)

II. Specialized Certification (HM Inspections, Cargo Tank/Bulk Packaging Inspections, or Motorcoach/Bus Inspections):

- Successfully complete the specialized FMCSA inspection course (general HM inspection, Cargo Tank/Bulk Packaging inspection, or Motorcoach/Bus inspection) or equivalent.
- During the first year after completion of classroom training, must conduct a minimum number of specialized inspections with a senior, experienced State or Federal inspector:
 - o For HM inspections: 16
 - o For Cargo Tank/Bulk Packaging inspections: 16
 - o For Motorcoach/Bus inspections: 24 Level I or V

Maintenance of Certification

- Required to complete a minimum number of specialized inspections annually:
 - o For HM inspections: 8
 - o For Cargo Tank/Bulk Packaging inspections: 8
 - o For Motorcoach/Bus inspections: 8 Level I or V
- Meet minimum documented quality levels in the driver / vehicle inspections process.
 - o Example: Management reports – establish percentage of norm
- Successfully complete any FMCSA required training.
 - o Example: Cargo Tank / Bulk Packaging, Refresher training in Hours of Service, etc.

Decertification

- Occurs when any one of the requirements established under Maintenance of Certification are not met

Recertification

- Must meet FMCSA requirements based upon areas of deficiency in Maintenance of Certification.
(Example: Additional on-the-job training)

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Compliance Review

To achieve initial certification to conduct a compliance review, the individual must successfully complete the courses that would provide a minimum level of knowledge in the FMCSR and HMR. The training would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Title 49, CFR Parts - 382, 383, 390, 391, 392, 393, 395, 396, 397
- Title 49, CFR Parts – 107, 171, 172, 173, 177, 178, 180
- Field Operations Training Manual
- Computer software – currently this would include Capri, CDLIS and MCREGIS

Safety Audit

To achieve initial certification to conduct a safety audit, the individual must successfully complete the courses that would provide a minimum level of knowledge in the FMCSR and HMR. The training would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Title 49, CFR Parts – 382, 383, 390, 391, 392, 393, 395, 396, 397
- Title 49, CFR Part – 107, 171, 172, 173, 177, 178, 180
- Field Operations Training Manual
- Computer software – Safety Audit system, CDLIS and MCREGIS

Driver/Vehicle Inspections

To achieve initial certification to conduct a driver/vehicle inspection, the individual must successfully complete the courses that would provide minimum level of knowledge in the FMCSR. The training would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Title 49, CFR Parts – 383, 390, 391, 392, 393, 395, 396, 397
- CVSA/FMCSA Out of Service Criteria

Field Operations Training Manual
Computer software - ASPEN and CDLIS

- For specialized certifications, the individual must successfully complete the courses that would provide minimum level of knowledge in the specialized area, such as general HM, Cargo Tank/Bulk Packaging, and Motorcoach/Bus.